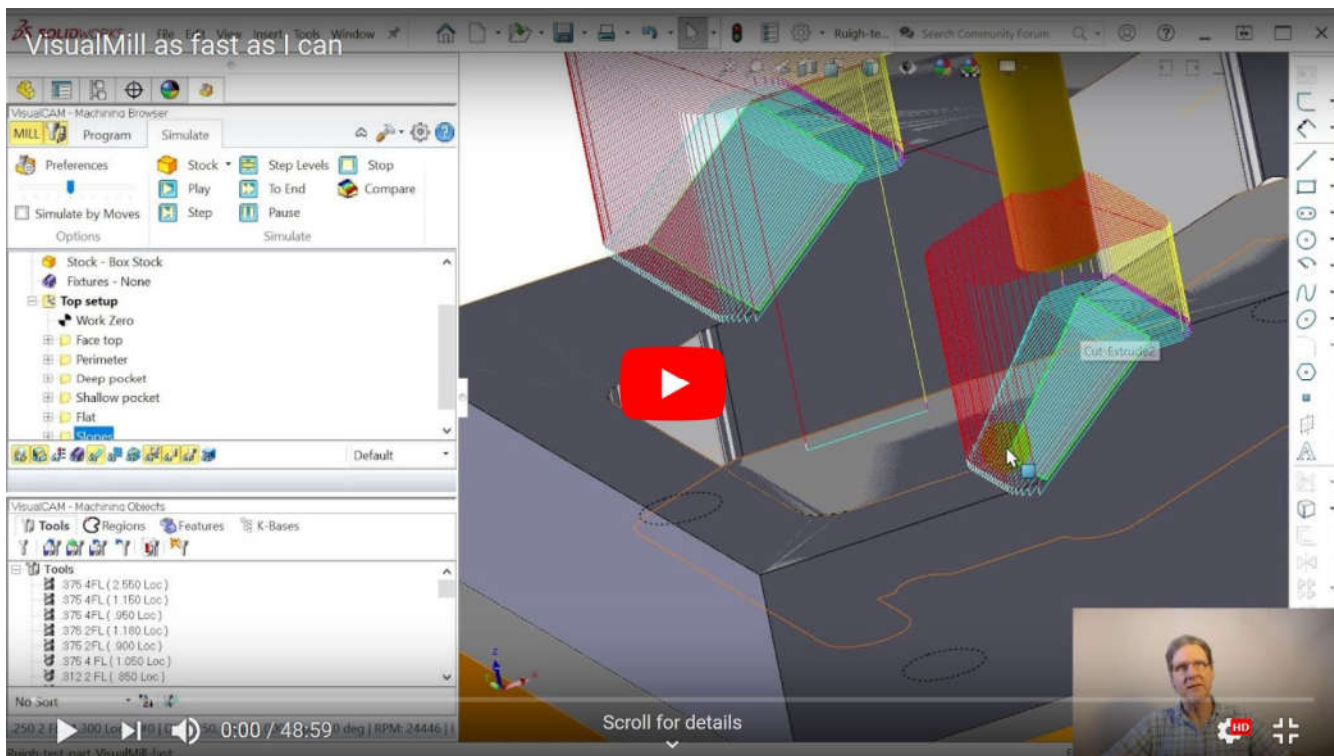




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VisualMill fast as I can

I do the test part from the first-impression videos as fast as I can. Instead of four episodes, I did it in 48 minutes.



SolidWorks part file here.

The VisualMill demo program will not allow saving, so the file above is just the part.

Now that I have worked with VisualMill for a couple months, I went back to the test part in the first, second, third, and fourth episodes. I got the part done in a bit over 45 minutes.

This was slower than the 23 minutes in SolidCAM, but I had forgotten how to do some things and made some stupid mistakes. I think if I practiced a few times before recording, I could get the time well under 40 minutes, probably something close to 35 minutes.

The great news was I figured out how to select a surface instead of a surface boundary, so I did not need a sketch to do the two slopes in the test part. I did have to make a sketch to profile the flat area, but that was needed in all the other programs except SolidCAM, that was able to do the geometry "point to point".

While the user interface of VisualMill is great to start the part, the dialogs can get confusing with tabs that seem to be different in every operation. It also dismisses the dialog when you generate the toolpath, when you often have to change things. I do love the way you set a part zero, this is the way machinists I know think, not like mathematician programmers with planes and "coordsys".